



## PRIMARY MATTERS

Issue 3 October 2014

Welcome to the third edition of PRIMARY MATTERS – a quarterly update from the ACARA Primary Curriculum team. This newsletter will provide more information about some of ACARA’s projects that assist primary schools across Australia.

### ILLUSTRATIONS OF PRIMARY CURRICULUM MANAGEMENT

We are close to finishing the filming of our short vignettes, showcasing the ways various primary school leaders are approaching the management of the Australian Curriculum. Currently we have visited 12 schools and, while we are yet to complete publishing materials around the vignettes, four have been launched on the ACARA [YouTube site](#)



St Mary’s is a Catholic primary school in the northern suburbs of Melbourne with 540 students, 39 teaching staff (including part-time teachers) and 15 non-teaching staff. A comprehensive, rich, values-based curriculum is offered in a supportive caring environment.

St Mary’s school community believe that all children should be actively engaged in their learning. The leadership team have focused on all staff being well-versed in the Australian Curriculum to assist with the development of consistent teaching practice within the school.

Brighton Primary School is a government school incorporating a centre for the hearing-impaired, with 620 students, 41 teaching staff and 14 non-teaching staff. It is located in the south-west of Adelaide. The school’s values of care, respect, achieving the best, being responsible learners and being environmentally-aware citizens reflect a strong focus on learner inquiry and wellbeing.

Brighton began the Australian Curriculum journey by including a curriculum expert in the leadership team and establishing professional learning teams to develop a deep understanding of the Australian Curriculum amongst all staff.



Primary curriculum team members are happy to discuss these projects. Contact them directly by email:  
 Laraine Lucas – Primary Curriculum Lead: [laraine.lucas@acara.edu.au](mailto:laraine.lucas@acara.edu.au)  
 Jenny Avvenevole – Senior Project Officer, Early Childhood and Primary: [jenny.avvenevole@acara.edu.au](mailto:jenny.avvenevole@acara.edu.au)



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When the *Illustrations of primary curriculum management* are published on the Australian Curriculum website later in the year, leadership teams will be able to consider approaches taken by different schools that are successfully managing implementation of the Australian Curriculum and access valuable planning tools and resources.



Kalinda Primary School is a government school with 473 students, 27 teaching staff and 11 non-teaching staff in the eastern suburbs of Melbourne. Kalinda is an energetic learning environment, which continually seeks ways to further improve their excellent programs.

Kalinda began using the Australian Curriculum, reflecting on their students' performance and backward-mapping to revive explicit instruction through a challenge-based learning environment. Collaboration and mapping are key features in their story.

The Hills Christian Community School (HCCS) is an independent school in Adelaide with 530 students from ELC to Year 9 and just over 400 from Reception to Year 7. There are 16 classroom teachers in the primary school who are supported by wonderful specialist and support educators. HCCS provides a broad, rigorous, engaging and challenging teaching and learning program for its students.

HCCS established year level teams to plan and program the Australian Curriculum, where teachers became subject experts. Collaboration and mapping are key features in their story.



If you [subscribe to ACARA Update](#), you will not only receive all ACARA Updates, but also receive a notification when the next vignettes are published –including a wonderful series of three from the Pilbara Region in Western Australia.

Please pass our newsletter on to your primary colleagues. The Primary Curriculum team contact details are below and we would welcome any feedback or questions about ACARA's work.

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